

**AMENDMENTS IN CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus, comprising:

a main chassis having a rotatable head cylinder provided thereon: and

a sub chassis on which a tape cassette is mountable;

wherein:

the sub chassis is movable with respect to the main chassis between a tape cassette mountable position and a tape pull-out completion position, and the tape cassette mountable position is a position at which the tape cassette is mountable on the sub chassis and the tape pull-out completion position is a position at which information recording to and information reproduction from the tape, which has been pulled out from the tape cassette and has been wound around the rotatable head cylinder, can be performed; and

a portion of the main chassis along a forward end thereof is cut out across the entire forward end of the main chassis toward the rotatable head cylinder.

2. (Original) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a rotatable capstan for driving the tape;

a supply reel stand engaged with a supply reel of the tape cassette;

a take-in reel stand engaged with a take-in reel of the tape cassette; and

an idler engaged with the supply reel stand or the take-in reel stand in accordance with a rotation direction of the capstan so as to drive and rotate the supply reel stand or the take-in reel stand;

wherein:

the idler is pivotably provided on the main chassis; and

at least one of sections of the portion of the main chassis along the forward end thereof, each section being to a side of the pivoting shaft of the idler, is cut out to a position beyond the pivoting shaft of the idler toward the rotatable head cylinder.

3. (Original) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the forward end of the main chassis has an L-shaped cross-section.

4. (Original) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of tape pull-out members operable to pull out the tape from the tape cassette, wherein all of the plurality of tape pull-out members are provided on the sub chassis.

5. (Original) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of tape pull-out members operable to pull out the tape from the tape cassette, wherein each of the plurality of tape pull-out members operates to pull out the tape from the tape cassette as the sub chassis moves from the tape mountable position to the tape pull-out completion position.

6. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording and reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

    a plurality of tape pull-out members operable to pull out the tape from the tape cassette;

    at least one guide member for guiding at least one of the plurality of tape pull-out members;

    at least one arm for driving the at least one tape pull-out member; and

    a link member for connecting one of the at least one tape pull-out member and one of the at least one arm;

    wherein:

    the at least one guide member is provided on the main chassis;

    the at least one arm is provided on the sub chassis; and

    the link member is pivotably engaged with the one of the at least one tape pull-out member at one end of the link member, and is pivotably engaged with the one of the at least one arm at another end of the link member.